

## HCBS CLIENT OBLIGATIONS

### KEESM 8270

- ✓ The consumer is eligible for the higher protected income limit based on the month they choose HCBS or the month they were assessed depending upon the waiver.
- ✓ In order to be eligible for the HCBS program the consumer's expected cost of care for HCBS services must exceed their client obligation.

Example A: Henry is 72 and lives at home. He was assessed and chose HCBS services in February. The EES worker receives the ES-3160 indicating a choice date and \$350 as the monthly cost of care for his services. The EES worker begins processing the application. Based on Henry's pension of \$1,250 he would have a monthly obligation of **\$503** (\$1,250 - \$20 income disregard - **\$727\* PIL**). Since his obligation exceeds his cost of care, he is not eligible for the HCBS program. The EES worker would deny eligibility for HCBS. The worker would consider other MS programs such as Medically Needy spenddown, QMB, LMB, or Subsidy only case.

Example B: Frieda is 80 and just moved into an assisted living facility. The EES worker receives a 3160 from the AAA that Frieda's choice date was February and that her ongoing cost of care is expected to be \$750 monthly. The EES worker determines based on Frieda's pension and social security income she will have a client obligation of **\$378** (\$1,125 - \$20 income disregard - **\$727\* PIL**). Frieda is eligible as her obligation is less than the monthly cost of services on the HCBS program.

- ✓ Non-covered medical expenses can be allowed against HCBS obligations. A list detailing what can be allowed against an HCBS obligation can be found in the Miscellaneous Forms section of KEESM manual.
- ✓ EES workers should follow the communication rules and notify the HCBS casemanager when reducing obligations due to non-covered medical expenses.
- ✓ Remember to put a "Y" in the cost of care field on **SPEN** in order for the correct benefit plan to be assigned. Otherwise the case is not authorized for a medical card.

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